

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /036 W

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R 191645Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5731

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP EINV MO

SUBJECT: RABAT PORTION VISIT OF BUSINESS COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL
UNDERSTANDING

1. RABAT STOP BY BCIU WAS UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS. ON FIRST DAY, GROUP MET IN JOINT SESSION WITH VICE-GOVERNOR BANK OF MOROCCO AND DIRECTOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE OFFICE, RECEIVED LUNCHEON BRIEFING WITH AMBASSADOR, SPENT HOUR AND A HALF WITH SECSTATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN PM'S CABINET ROOM, AND ENDED DAY WITH SECSTATE FOR PLAN. MEETINGS TOOK PLACE IN ATMOSPHERE OF FRANKNESS AND CORDIALITY DURING WHICH PARTICIPANTS WERE ABLE TO PUT TOUGH QUESTIONS AND RECEIVE HONEST ANSWERS.

2. DURING SECOND DAY, GROUP DIVIDED FOR SPECIALIZED CALLS ON MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM, DEVELOPMENT BANK, PUBLIC WORKS, BRPM AND RAILROADS. LUNCHEON HOSTED BY SECSTATE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND EVENING RECEPTION GIVEN BY MINISTER OF COOPERATION PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR PERSONAL CONTACTS AND PRELIMINARY EXPLORATION OF SPECIFIC TRADE/INVESTMENT PROJECTS. SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS FOUND TIME TO COME TO EMBASSY FOR INDIVIDUALIZED DISCUSSIONS ON POTENTIAL LOCAL REPS OR PARTNERS, SPECIFIC LEGAL AND OTHER PROBLEMS, AND ASSESSMENT SECTORAL PERSPECTIVES WITHIN OVERALL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK.

3. IN ASSESSING OVERALL IMPACT, WE CONSIDER TIMING OF TRIP, AS WELL AS CAREFUL SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS IN RELATION TO
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MOST ATTRACTIVE SECTORS OF ECONOMY, TO HAVE BEEN OUTSTANDINGLY

SUCCESSFUL. COMING IN WAKE OF AMBASSADOR'S RECENT FRANK EXCHANGE WITH SEVERAL MINISTERS AND SENIOR ECONOMIC OFFICIALS REGARDING MINOR IRRITANTS IN GENERALLY ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT SITUATION, BCIU VISIT PROVIDED GOM OPPORTUNITY TO DISPLAY ITS WILLINGNESS AND ABILITY TO MAKE PERFORMANCE LIVE UP TO PROMISE. JUDGING FROM ACCESS AFFORDED AND ATMOSPHERE AND FRANKNESS OF MEETINGS--INCLUDING COMMENTS BY US PARTICIPANTS--SENIOR GOM OFFICIALS APPEAR DETERMINED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IMPROVING WORLD INVESTMENT OUTLOOK AND FACT THAN MOROCCANIZATION PROBLEMS NOW LARGELY BEHIND US, TO MAKE DETERMINED NEW BEGINNING.

4. DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND MOROCCAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO BE COMMENDED ON SENDING US JUST WHAT WE NEEDED AT BEST POSSIBLE TIME TO CAPITALIZE ON RECENT EFFORTS HERE. EFFECT ON ESSO SITUATION--NOT THE LEAST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF CLIMATE ARISING FROM BCIU VISIT WHICH AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN RECENT CONJUNCTURE OF EVENTS--WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

5. GROUP DEPARTED NOON JUNE 18 FOR CASABLANCA AND PRIVATE

SECTOR VISITS.
NEUMANN

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